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INDIANAPOLIS, SUNDAY MORNING, SEFTEMBER 16, 1894-SIXTEEN PAGES.

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Chas. Soehner, the Well-Known Ex-Piano Dealer, Says: MR. GEO. C. PEARSON:

Dear Sir-My father and myself were engaged in the piano trade for nearly thirty years, and during that time handled almost all the leading brands of pianos, such as Steinway, Hazelton, Chickering, Knabe and others, but none of them proved so entirely satisfactory in every respect as the Hazelton. Yours truly, CHARLES SOEPNER.

Indianapolis, Ind., June 12, 1891. MR. GEO. C. PEARSON, City: Dear Sir—Words can hardly express the satisfaction and pleasure we derive in owning so fine an instrument as the beautiful Hazelton Bros. Upright Piano purchased from you. It gives us so much better satisfaction than the Decker Bros. Upright Piano which we traded to you in part pay on the Hazelton Piano. Yours respectfully, MRS. G. G. HOWE.

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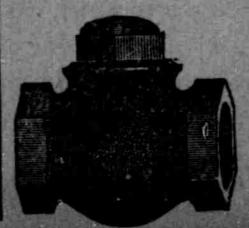
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THE RULER OF COREA

Carpenter's Audience with His Majesty in His Royal Palace.

How the American Minister Was Presented-Our Correspondent Goes Through the Main Gate.

A DRINK WITH THE CABINET

A King with Three Thousand Servants and a Score of Eunuchs.

How He Looks, Acts and Talks-Interview with Crown Prince and a Few Words About the Queen.

(Copyrighted, 1894, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

One of the most interesting men in the

world to-day is the King of Corea. The war between Japan and China is being fought over him, and the future of Asia is involved in the struggle. The King is the absolute ruler of 12,000,000 people. The land of Corea belongs, practically, to him, and the development of its immense natural resources in gold and coal, which is sure to occur after the war is over, may make I had an audience with him six years Seoul just before the outbreak of the present rebellion. He received me with the highest of honors, and I am, I believe, the only strictly private American who has ever gone through the imperial door of the great gate which leads into his palace city. The King's palaces cover nearly one thousand acres. They lie at the foot of a ragged gray mountain and a thick wall of stone as high as a two-story house runs around them. This wall is entered by a half dozen proper people go in. Each gate has its own rank, and there are special entrances for servants and low nobles. The great central princes are supposed to go through it. I see that the papers state that Gen. Clarence Greathouse, the King's foreign adviser, is palace city through this door. This is not true. The same honor was accorded last May to Minister Sill. Dr. H. N. Allen, and

This is how it happened. The Corean officials, who put on great airs, have been trying to lessen the rank of foreigners in the eyes of the people. They have made a back entrance to the palace for them, and they proposed to inaugurate this by thus had arrived in Corea during my stay. Mir. ister Sill, however, refused to accept their proposition. He said he represented the President of the United States, and that our President was as big as any king or he thought he ought to go through it, and once became very angry. He not only said me from my last interview, but he was that he would give me a special audience

after that of the minister was over. THROUGH THE CITY. through the city on our way to the King. was at least two hundred feet long, and we rode in chairs borne by big-hatted coolies. The King's chair shone like gold in its brass trimmings, and it had mahogany fur hats were tassels of the brightest vermilion, each of which was as big as a fly

brush. Oh, it was gay. In this way we went down the Pennsylvania avenue of Seoul. Our kesos ran in front and howled out to the common people people who smoked took their pipes out of their mouths and held them behind them. Women with green coats over their heads scampered into their houses, and the eyes of all were so stretched out at the sight reached the gate of the palace. Here our soldiers put down the chairs, and, accomers, we walked toward the gate. Midway on the platform we were met by one of the high officials of the King, clad in a gorgeous green gown, with a stork of white silk embroidered on a background of gold a foot square upon his breast. He had a similar square of embroidery upon his back, and as I looked at him it struck me that with a good revolver a man could kill both of these embroidered birds at the same time. He had about his waist a hoop of what seemed to be shell or horn empanied by servants, who held up his arms and sort of lifted him along the walk, but it better showed his rank and style. He bowed low. We bowed, and after a short interval of diplomatic taffy giving he led the way up to the central He then went through one of the side rates, and our interpreters followed him. Dr. Allen and myself were walking with the minister. Said the Doctor, "He seems to intend that I shall go through the main gate, too." "Well, Doctor," said I, "I think I will stick to the party, and though have no official rank, I'll see how it feels to walk the path that has only been trodden by the feet of kings." I had not

forgotten that I was an American prince.

And so we three representatives of the

royalty of the United States marched

it was a great thing in Corea, and every- down upon his forehead. It had no brim where I went after that it was mentioned and there were no wings at the back, as

LED BY A PRIME MINISTER.

other Coreans.

In our march through the city of the King this gorgeous Prime Minister stalked along in front of us, leading us through great courts till we came to another gate, through the center arch of which we passed. Then we went on through other courts walled with palaces, past servants clad in brown and red, and by officials wearing all sorts of hats and gowns. There were soldiers everywhere, and the Gatling guns stood near some of the entrances. We passed through street after street, walled with the buildings in which live this King and his servants, until we came to a great gate, the side door of which alone was open. The central door was closed. The secretary of the home office stepped through the side gate and expected us to follow. We had gotten used, however, to the arch of honor, and we stopped and waited for the main gate to be opened. The secretary thereupon changed his mind. He came back and was practically lifted by his servants to the top of a hill where there was a new gate, and he led us through this. This brought us into the vestibule built for the foreigners. It was a magnificent corridor, so long that you could not see the end as you stood at the top and tooked down L. It was lighted at the top and on both sides by beautiful lattices of white paper. The woodwork was papered with this wonderful Corean paper, which is as smooth as ivory and as strong as leather. The floor was covered with matting as fine as the web of a Panama hat, and so thick that our feet sunk as softly into it as they would have done had it been Brussels carpet. This corridor had many landings. We dea mile, we came out into an open hall which looked out upon the gardens of

ace in the distance. This room was furnished in foreign style, and the highest officials of the King and a gathered within it. Each noble had his servant with him. Tall, broad-shouldered men, clad in brown gowns and gorgeous hats, stood about as guards.

These are known as the brown-coated

the King, and gave a view of the new pal-

kesos. They are the body guard of the King, and, like the famed soldiers of Peter the Great, have been picked out for their height and strength. Nearly every one them is over six feet, and their long gowns make them look like giants. In addition to these, there are servants in red caps, servants in caps of purple and servants with gorgeous headdressings of blue. The officlals were clad in their court dresses, and the head of each showed a top-knot shining through its fine Corean cap of horse hair, which, with its great wings flapping out at the sides, forms the official headdress. These wings are oval in shape, and they stand out like ears, denoting that their owners are ever listening for the commands of the King. The gowns of these officials were of the finest silk, made very full. They fell from their necks to their feet and nearly covered the great official cloth boots, which made each man look as though he had the gout and was nursing his feet for the occasion. The gowns were of dark green, embroidered with gold on the breast and back, and containing white storks or tigers, according as the man belonged to the civil or the military rank. Each man had a stiff, hoop-like belt about him, which was fastened in some way to his dress, and surrounded his body just below the armpits. These hoops were so large that they stood about six inches out from the dress. They are emblems of rank, and you can tell the position of the man by the character of the gold, jewels or preclous stones with which these hoops are decorated. Some of them were made of great number of small squares fastened together by joints, and not a few of these squares were of the purest gold. Others were of silver and others were of green jade, amber and other precious stones. Each of these officials wore a ribbon of woven horse hair about four inches wide about his head, and this ribbon was fastened on by a little round button about the size of the back of a collar button, which rested just behind the ear. These buttons also denote rank. Some were of gold, some amber and others of other precious ma-

were introduced all around by the Cabinet panels. My chair was covered with navy | cookies about the size of macaroons. At blue silk, and Dr. Allen rode in a gorgeous | each man's seat there were champagne about half an hour with his Majesty, and King was ready to see me. Taking off my hat and my eyeglasses, I walked with this with stone, by red-capped, red-gowned servants, and past soldiers in gorgeous uniforms, to the gate of a large courtyard. As we neared this my interpreter, who was round pillars painted red. There three entrances to it, reached by granite was. I judge, about six feet from the Corean screen, stood the King, with two his arms. And about him were a number of officials, who bent over half double and dared not look at him for reverence. All of these officials had these gorgeous storks or tigers on their breasts, and they looked knees as he got to the steps. He crawled then bent himself over half double and remained in this position during the whole awe his Majesty's sentences to me and my questions to him.

PRESENTED TO THE KING.

of the interview, whispering in tones of The King was dressed in a gown of crimon silk, cut high at the neck, and emand one covered each side of the gown at located. The gown reached to his feet. It plexion. The sleeves of the gown were very full, and out of them a pair of delicate, shapely hands came from time to time, and clasped each other nervously, On one of his fingers I noticed a magnificent diamond ring, and it seemed to me as hough the great solitaire must cut his finhis waist he had a bellyband embroidered with jewels, and his feet were clad in heavy official boots. His head was co

and there were no wings at the back, as own hands at me in Chinese fashion as I came up. I bowed, and I looked him straight in the eye while we talked together. I was not more than five feet away from him, and there was a little table between us. Above us shone the incandescent globes of the Edison electric light, and there was an European carpet on the floor.

A STUDY OF THE MONARCH. The audience was largely given up to the passing of compliments, and it lasted, I judge, about twenty minutes. During it had a good opportunity to study the King. and I photographed, as it were, his form and features upon my brain. He is about five feet, six inches in height. He is rather well built, but not heavy. He has beautiful bright black almond eyes, a complexion the color of rich Jersey cream, and teeth as white as the tusks of an African elephant. His face is full, and it shines with intelligence. He has a thin moustache and a few hairs of black whiskers. He smiled frequently, and now and then he laughed melodiously. He seemed to have a stone of about the size of a boy's lucky stone in his mouth while he talked, and this, from time to time, got between his teeth while he listened. When he spoke it sunk back into his mouth, taking the place of an old maid's plumper or the tobacco quid of one of our Congressmen. I don't know why he uses this stone, and I am not altogether sure that it was a stone. It seemed too hard for wax, and medical chewing gum has not yet been introduced into Oorea. The King of Corea is now forty-two years old, and he is in good physical condition. He is one of the ablest rulers Corea has ever had, and there is no harder worked monarch on the face of the globe. His troubles to-day come from his offi-

cials. He had been so bound round by them that he did not know the condition of his people, and he has been hedged in as was the Mikado of Japan a generation ago. You cannot imagine the pomp of this King. No one can go in front of him. He never moves about the palaces without there are eunuchs at his side to hold up his arms, whenever he comes into their presence sleeps in the daytime. He goes to bed at 8 o'clock every morning, and no one dare wake him. About his rooms guards are He usually remains in bed until half past 5 in the afternoon, and in quiet times he begins his work in the palace when the watch fires are lighted on the mountains about Seoul. These notify him that all is well throughout the country, or the reverse. These signal fires I will describe in another letter. They take the place of the telegraph, and from hill to hill all over the dispatches describing the condition of the people. It is the telegraph system of the middle ages, and has been in daily use in Corea till the Japanese took possession of the land, a few months ago.

Leaving the King, I was next introduced to the Crown Prince, who is now just about twenty-one years of age, and who is another audience hall, first backing out from the King, and going down the side steps of granice which I had mounted.] do not think that the Crown Prince is as euruchs who stood beside him and held up his arms. My interpreter had to double himself up between us while we talked and there was quite as much pomp in the present presentation. During the audience I heard a low laugh, which seemed to come from behind a screen at one side of the room. I imagine this was uttered by the Queen or one of her maids of honor, She often views, I am told, such matters through a peep-hole, and, though it would be entirely contrary to official etiquette for her to be seen by a man other than the King, it is said that she knows all that is going on in the palace, and that there is no prominent audience given which she does not thus inspect. She is said to strongest in Corea, and her influence in all governmental matters has been very great FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Outery Against Lynching Here-Extermination in Central Africa.

Labouchere, in London Truth. For many centuries the inhabitants of the control. The Khedive, Ismail, annexed their country. The Soudanese drove out the Egyptians, and we, having forced the latbe free." The Italians, in the meanwhile taken Kassala, a Soudanese town.

longs to Egypt, and that, as Egypt belongs us to conquer the Soudan, and, with their usual hypocrisy, they have urged this on the ground that the conquest would be beneficial to the inhabitants. If it be beneficial, and if this be our only aim, assuredly we ought to rejoice that the Italians have introduced into a portion of the Soudan the blessings of European civ-

This view of the matter, however, does not recommend itself to the Jingos. For us right and proper; for any other European power to do this is criminal-greed. Not beleving, myself, that the Soudan would be a as we are of England, I should be glad to think that it will remain theirs. If, how-ever, it is to be conquered, I trust that either the French or the Italians will un-dertake the task, and thus prevent us wasting our money and the blood of our soldiers on so thankless an undertaking.

This is, of course, the unpatriotic aspiration of a "Little Englander," a "Big Englander" being one who deems that our empire is hardly worth having if we cannot

acquire worthless jungles in Africa, or. 21. least, if we cannot prevent any other power from acquiring them in case we should ever want them.
If Ham behaved badly the children laphet have taken it out of the descend ants of that erring patriarch. They of plained that this was a blessing to them. Having given up these practices, on the score of putting down slavery, they have parceled out Africa between themselves, and, now on one pretext and now on an

and robbed the family of Ham, and have called this "pegging out claims." What mainly disgusts me with the whole proceeding is the hideous hypocrisy beheath which we cloak our greed. A sanc-timonious "sand-the-sugar" buccaneer is the most loathsome of God's creatures. treating a white woman, you killed thou-sands of black men in Africa because there was gold in their country, and this was done, not by a mob, but by a company, acting under a royal charter?"

A Willing Mercury.

First Boy-Wet's the rush? Second Boy-I heard pa invite an old end home to dinner, and I'm hurryin' old y'r father send yeh?"